Decontrolling of freight and passenger fares

2541. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a whether the freight and passenger fares for coastal shipping have recently been decontrolled; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes Sir.

(g) Section 412 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, under which the Central Government had power to fix/revise the Coastal tariffs has been deleted by the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993. The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 1993 was subsequently passed by Rajya Sabha on 8-12-1993 and adopted by Lok Sabha on 14-12-1993.

Port development proposals from Maharashtra

2542. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of port development proposals have been received from Government of Maharashtra in the district of Sindhudurg and Ratnagir;

(b) wha are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that such proposal are pending for a long time; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Construction of Coimbatore bye-pass road project

2543. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position regarding the Coimbatore bye-pass road project which has been kept pending for a very long time; and

(b) what are the reasons for such a long delay in clearing the project by Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Construction of Coimbatore byepass has been posed to CECF Aid Programme considering the huge investment involved. Private sector participation is also contemplated.

Four laning of Vadodara-Bombay section of National Highway No. 8

2544. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) by when the four laning of the remaining part of the Vadodara-Bombay road section of National Highway number 8 will be completed to meet the demand of increasing traffic; and

(b) whether adequate financial provision has been made for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The four laning of the remaining part of Vadodara-Bombty section of National Highway 8 is not contemplated during Eighth Five Year Plan. As such it is too early to indicate the financial provision for the same and the time by which four-laning will be completed.